

Appl. N . 10/024,782
Amendment and/ r Response
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REMARKS / DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

Claims 1-8 and 10-20 are pending in the application.

Claims 1 and 8 are amended for non-statutory reasons: to replace a non-standard term "n-gon" with its definition as provided in the specification, "equilateral polygon having n sides" (specification, page 1, lines 25-29), to improve the readability of the claims. The claims are not narrowed in scope and no new matter is added.

The Office action rejects claims 1-3, 5, 7, 10, and 11 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Yamanaka et al. (USP 6,452,653, hereinafter Yamanaka), Jang et al. (USP 6,522,375, hereinafter Jang), Goto et al. (JP 11-183730, hereinafter Goto), Korishima et al. (JP 9-288274, hereinafter Korishima), Broeng et al. (USP 6,539,155, hereinafter Broeng), and Yamamoto et al. (USP 6,407,786, hereinafter Yamamoto). The applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

The applicant specifically claims a light reflector having projections or recessions that are arranged as the vertices of an equilateral n-sided polygon, where n is an odd number equal to or greater than three.

Neither Yamanaka, nor Jang, nor Goto, nor Korishima, nor Broeng, nor Yamamoto, teaches or suggests a reflector having projections or recessions arranged as the vertices of an equilateral n-sided polygon. Yamanaka teaches a reflector with irregularly placed projections (Yamanaka, column 18, lines 43-46; FIGs 2A, 6, 9B, 11, 13A-C, et al.). Jang teaches a reflector with irregularly placed polygon projections (Jang, abstract, FIGs. 3, 5, 8A, 8B, 13, 14). Goto teaches uniformly distributed projections in one dimension, that apparently transverse the other dimension (Goto, FIGs. 1, 2B). Korishima teaches uniformly distributed projections in one dimension, that apparently transverse the other dimension (Korishima, all figures). Broeng teaches an optical waveguide, which does not have projections or recessions (Tiara, FIGs. 4 and 16). Yamamoto teaches randomly distributed projections or recessions (Yamamoto, column 7, lines 50-64; FIG. 1A through 6B, et al.).

Because neither Yamanaka, nor Jang, nor Goto, nor Korishima, nor Broeng, nor Yamamoto, individually or collectively, teach or suggest a reflector having projections or

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recessions arranged as the vertices of an equilateral n-sided polygon, as specifically claimed in each of the applicant's independent claims 1 and 8, the applicant respectfully maintains that each of the applicant's claims are patentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Yamanaka, Jang, Goto, Korishima, Broeng, and Yamamoto,

In view of the foregoing, the applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of record, allow all the pending claims, and find the application to be in condition for allowance. If any points remain in issue that may best be resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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